

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-07 AID-05

CEQ-01 OFA-01 COME-00 EPA-01 NSF-01 OES-03 FEAE-00

/099 W

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R 301215Z JUN 75

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2147

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 701

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, PFOR, IZ, SY,TU

SUBJ: EUPHRATES WATER DIVISION DISPUTE

REF: (A) BAGHDAD 589 (NOTAL) (B) BAGHDAD 683 (NOTAL)

1. DR. MOWFAK AL-BADRY, GOI DIRECTOR GENERAL OF DAMS, MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION, CALLED ON ME JUN 24 TO DISUSS HIS IMMINENT VISIT TO STATES WITH UNDERSECRETARY AFIF AL-RAWI (BAGHDAD 647 NOTAL) AND THEIR WIVES.

2. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTIONS HE GAVE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND INFO ON EUPHRATES WATER DISPUTE. (NOTE: DR. BADRY HAS 1956 PHD FROM COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY AND IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED IRAQ'S LEADING AUTHORITY ON WATER ISSUES.)

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3. SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN PART OF EARLIER IRAQI DELEGATION TO ARAB LEAGUE HEADQUARTERS IN CAIRO. ADDED THAT AFTER SEVERAL DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS SYRIANS "WALKED OUT" AFTER ARAB LEAGUE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS HAD TABLED DRAFT RESOLUTION ESSENTIALLY ENDORSING IRAQ'S POSITION.

4. SAID THAT HE AND UNDERSECRETARY RAWI HAD BEEN GIVEN VERBAL AUTHORIZATION (AND WERE AWAITING WRITTEN CONFIRMATION) TO CALL ON IBRD IN WASHINGTON DURING U.S. VISIT TO SET CONDITIONS ON PROPOSED IBRD LOANS TO TURKEY AND SYRIA RELATING TO EUPHRATES DEVELOPMENT. ADDED THAT IBRD MONEY IS CRUCIAL TO SYRIA'S PLANS FOR RIVER AND, IN HIS OPINION, GOI HAD AT LAST FOUND PRACTICAL FORUM IN WHICH TO CHALLENGE SYRIA'S CURTAILMENTS OF WATER DELIVERIES TO IRAQ. SAID THAT IBRD WAS COMMITTED TO WITHHOLDING FUNDS UNLESS ALL THREE RIVERINE PARTIES SUPPORTED LOANS. ADDED THAT GOI HAD COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN IBRD'S FAIRNESS ON THIS ISSUE. SAID THAT TURKEY WAS FAR FROM BEING BLAMELESS IN EUPHRATES DISPUTE BUT DID NOT OTHERWISE ELABORATE ON THIS POINT.

4. COMMENT: USINT HAS NO INDEPENDENT KNOWLEDGE PROPOSED IBRD LOANS. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S FILLING IN GAPS. BADRY WAS CAREFUL TO SAY GOI DID NOT INTEND TO VETO LOANS (ALTHOUGH HE SAID IT HAD THE RIGHT TO DO SO) BUT MERELY TO SET CONDITIONS FOR SYRIA AND TURKEY. CLAIMED THAT IRAQ'S RIGHT TO EUPHRATES WATERS FOR IRRIGATION BASED ON WIDESPREAD, CONTINUOUS USAGE ROUGHLY 5,000 YEAR OLDER THAN EITHER SYRIA'S OR TURKEY'S.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** EUPHRATES WATER DIVISION DISPUTE  
**TAGS:** SENV, PFOR, IZ, SY, TU, (BADRY, MOWFAK)  
**To:** STATE  
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